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A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL AND TRIBAL PLANNING AGENCIES TO COOPERATE AND SUPPORT THE INITIATIVES OF THE AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION INDIGENOUS PLANNING DIVISION AND THAT ALL PLANNERS THAT WORK FOR OR WITH TRIBAL COMMUNITIES BE ENCOURAGED TO CONVENE A STATEWIDE SUMMIT ON INDIGENOUS PLANNING.

WHEREAS, Native Americans have been living in the region of New Mexico for over twenty thousand years; and

WHEREAS, over twenty-five thousand ancient Indian settlements have been found in the state; and

WHEREAS, twenty-three Indian reservations are located within the borders of the state comprising approximately ten percent of the entire land base of New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, villages like those of Taos Pueblo and Acoma Pueblo are among the oldest continually occupied communities in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the Apache, Navajo and Pueblo communities maintain their unique cultures and traditions to the benefit and promotion of New Mexico tourism, arts and crafts and scientific knowledge; and

WHEREAS, the population in 2003 for American Indians and Alaska Natives was two hundred five thousand, or eleven percent of the state population; and

1           WHEREAS, the American Indian and Alaska Natives  
2 population in New Mexico ranked fifth among all states with  
3 the highest numerical increases, eight thousand four hundred  
4 thirty, from 2000 to 2003; and

5           WHEREAS, McKinley county, with its American Indian and  
6 Alaska Natives population of fifty-eight thousand,  
7 seventy-eight percent of the county's population, and San  
8 Juan county, with its American Indian and Alaska Natives  
9 population of forty-six thousand, thirty-eight percent of the  
10 county's population, ranked third and seventh, respectively,  
11 for American Indian and Alaska Natives among all counties  
12 nationwide; and

13           WHEREAS, Albuquerque, with its American Indian and  
14 Alaska Native population of twenty-two thousand forty-seven,  
15 four and nine-tenths percent of Albuquerque's population,  
16 ranks fourth in proportion among all census-designated places  
17 nationwide of one hundred thousand or more; and

18           WHEREAS, the national poverty rate for American Indians  
19 and Alaska Natives, averaged from 2001 to 2003, was twenty  
20 percent; and

21           WHEREAS, American Indians and Alaska Natives nationally  
22 have the highest percentage, twenty-seven and one-half  
23 percent, of people with no health insurance; and

24           WHEREAS, only fourteen percent of all American Indians  
25 and Alaska Natives over the age of twenty-five have at least

1 a bachelor's degree; and

2 WHEREAS, the tribal nations of New Mexico have sovereign  
3 jurisdiction within their reservations and have become  
4 increasingly self-determined in the administration and  
5 management of their people and their natural resources; and

6 WHEREAS, the mining of coal, oil and gas resources  
7 located on Indian lands contributes substantial revenues to  
8 the New Mexico economy; and

9 WHEREAS, the oldest and most senior water rights are  
10 held by Indian tribes in New Mexico; and

11 WHEREAS, housing, health and education services provided  
12 by the federal department of housing and urban development,  
13 the bureau of Indian affairs, the Indian health service and  
14 other providers contributed substantial housing, roads,  
15 community infrastructure and school needs to native people in  
16 New Mexico; and

17 WHEREAS, Indian casinos employ over nine thousand people  
18 and contributed approximately eighty million dollars  
19 (\$80,000,000) in 2004 to the state in revenues; and

20 WHEREAS, Indian tribes are among the largest single  
21 employers in Bernalillo, Cibola, McKinley, Otero, Sandoval  
22 and San Juan counties; and

23 WHEREAS, the American planning association created a new  
24 eighteenth division in indigenous planning whose mission is  
25 to foster an interdisciplinary approach to planning that

1 upholds land tenure values and cultural world views in  
2 community development;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
4 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that all federal, state, local and tribal  
5 planning agencies be encouraged to cooperate and support the  
6 initiatives of the American planning association indigenous  
7 planning division; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission on higher  
9 education, all New Mexico post-secondary educational  
10 institutions and the Indian education division of the public  
11 education department support and promote careers and training  
12 in planning for the benefit of tribal communities; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all planners that work for  
14 or with tribal communities be encouraged to convene a  
15 statewide summit on indigenous planning; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
17 transmitted to the commission on higher education, to all New  
18 Mexico post-secondary educational institutions and the Indian  
19 education division of the public education department. \_\_\_\_\_

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